

REMARKS

Initially, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for his indication of the allowability of claims 32-40.

In the above-noted Official Action, claims 21, 22, 25 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over RASMUS et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,091,806) in view of FISCHER et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,257,581). Claim 26 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over RASMUS in view of FISCHER, and further in view of DITTMER (Linear Technology Magazine). Claim 28 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over RASMUS in view of FISCHER, and further in view of NOLL (Introduction to Telecommunications Electronics). Claims 32-40 were indicated as allowable. Claims 23, 24, 27, 29 and 31 were objected-to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated as containing allowable subject matter if rewritten into independent form to include all of the limitations of base and any intervening claims.

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 21-31 will have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. At least because each of the claims now pending has been indicated by the Examiner as allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application is in condition for allowance.

The cancellation of claims 21-31 should not be taken as an indication of Applicants' acquiescence with the outstanding objections and rejections. Rather, Applicants have cancelled claims 21-31 in order to obtain early allowance of claims in the present application. In this regard, Applicants respectfully submit that each of claims 21-31 was allowable at least for the reasons set forth in Applicants' previous Response

P20856.A07

submitted December 30, 2004. Applicants further note that at least claims 23, 24, 27, 29 and 31 were indicated in the outstanding Final Official Action as containing an allowable combination of features.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding objections and rejections is respectfully requested, in view of the above-noted amendments and remarks. Applicants additionally request an indication of the allowability of each of the claims now pending, and submit that each of the claims now pending is in condition for allowance.

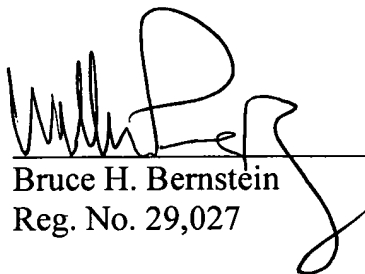
SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants have made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believe that they have now done so. Applicants have cancelled rejected and objected-to claims in order to obtain early allowance of the remaining claims. Accordingly, Applicants believe the pending claims are in condition for allowance, at least because each of the claims now pending has already been indicated as allowable by the Examiner.

Any amendments to the claims which have been made in this amendment, and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon the prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below listed number.

Respectfully submitted,  
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